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PATENT

C<sup>1</sup>  
 $R^2$  is a member selected from reactive functional groups, alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group and internally substituted alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group wherein said alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group and said internally substituted alkyl groups terminally substituted with a reactive functional group are substituted with a reactive functional group which is a member selected from  $-OR^3$ ,  $-NHR^4$ ,  $-COR^5$ ,  $-SH$  and  $-CH_2X^3$  wherein,

$-OR^3$  is a member selected from hydroxy, alkyl sulfonate and aryl sulfonate groups;

$R^4$  is H;

$R^5$  is a member selected from H,  $X^3$  and  $-OR^6$ , wherein

$R^6$  is a member selected from H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and substituted heterocyclyl groups;

$X^3$  is a halogen;

X is a member selected from  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$  and  $-NH-$ ; and

$X^1$  and  $X^2$  are members independently selected from O and S.

#### REMARKS

##### Status of the Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 15-27 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is amended to recited that  $R^6$  can be H, thereby including within the claim structures having a terminal carboxylic acid group. The amendment is supported by the specification at page 14, lines 13-14.